

City of Washington

Jack's Creek Floodplain & Greenway Improvements



LOCATION

Washington, Beaufort County, NC

FUNDING SOURCE

N.C. Department of Environmental
Quality – Resilient Coastal
Communities Program (RCCP)
Phase 4

PROJECT TYPE

Floodplain Enhancement &
Community Greenway

FUNDING AMOUNT

\$263,200 (2023)

Community Context

The City of Washington faces frequent flooding from high-intensity rainfall, putting road infrastructure, residential buildings, and public spaces at risk.

“Jack’s Creek, a key component of the city’s stormwater system, has limited overland capacity during storm events. Expanding the system is essential to reduce flood impacts and enhance community resilience.”

— [*City of Washington Resilience Strategy*](#)

Expanding the system is essential to reduce flood impacts and enhance community resilience.

Project Description

Funded through RCCP Phase 4, this hybrid project integrates nature-based and engineered solutions to improve the Jack’s Creek floodplain and greenway while maintaining its recreational use.

Key project features include:

- Increasing the volumetric capacity of the system, allowing the city to manage higher-frequency rainfall events.
- Creating additional detention areas on city-owned land for flood storage.
- Preserving and enhancing public recreational features, including a greenway trail, rest areas, open space, and shading vegetation.
- The project provides approximately 73,000 cubic feet of storage, equivalent to about 20 inches of water ponded over a football field, when the banks are full.

By combining stormwater management with public amenities, the project strengthens environmental, social, and flood resilience simultaneously.



Jack's Creek Floodplain during construction

Resilience and Environmental Benefits



EXPANDS
**FLOODPLAIN
CAPACITY**

TO REDUCE FLOODING OF STREETS,
HOMES, AND PUBLIC ASSETS

IMPROVES
**STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT** 
AND OVERLAND FLOW
DURING HIGH-INTENSITY
RAINFALL EVENTS



PROVIDES A DUAL-USE
**PUBLIC
GREENWAY AND
RECREATIONAL
AREA**, ENHANCING
COMMUNITY AMENITIES

INTEGRATES
**NATURE-BASED
DESIGN** TO SUPPORT
ECOLOGICAL FUNCTION
AND SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE



North Carolina
Coastal Resiliency

Project Outcomes / Performance Highlights

- Increased volumetric capacity of Jack's Creek to handle higher frequency storm events.
- Dual-purpose space provides flood storage and maintains public recreational access.
- Demonstrates an effective combination of infrastructure and nature-based solutions for urban flood resilience.

Jack's Creek Floodplain Before/After Improvements



Project Partners & Next Steps

Funded by RCCP Phase 4, the City of Washington collaborated with engineers, planners, and community stakeholders for design and implementation. Ongoing monitoring and maintenance will ensure the system continues to provide flood mitigation and public recreational benefits over the long term.

